

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

<i>Application Number</i>	09/989,962
<i>Filing Date</i>	November 21, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Hidefumi NAKATA
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	2815
<i>Examiner Name</i>	J. Diaz
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	36856.833

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s) reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 - iii. Other:
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply.
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s).
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS).
 - iv. Other:

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other:

1. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17).
 - iii. Other:
- b. Check in the amount of \$ enclosed.
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed).

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Christopher A. Bennett	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,710
Signature		Date	February 10, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to 703-872-9306 of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Sonia V. McVean	Date	February 10, 2004
Signature			